

**RECEIVED
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PATENT APPLICATION
Docket No. 15621.2**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of)

Byron G. Merrell et al.)

Serial No.:)

10/767,871)

Filing Date:)

January 29, 2004)

Confirmation No.:)

4119)

For:)

RETORT HEATING APPARATUS AND
METHODS OF USE)

Examiner:)

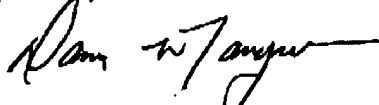
Alexis A. Wachtel)

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION BY FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that the following documents are being facsimile transmitted to United States Patent and Trademark Office at Fax No. 571.273.8300, on the 7th day of December 2005.

- Transmittal Letter for Amendment "A" and Response (3 pages)
- Amendment "A" and Response (17 pages)
- Transmittal for Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (3 pages)
- Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (2 pages)
- Form PTO-1449 listing 2 references (1 page)
- PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$330

Respectfully submitted,



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TRANSMITTAL FOR AMENDMENT "A"
AND RESPONSEMail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Amendment "A" and Response for entry in the above-identified application.

Small entity status of this application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and § 1.27 has been established by a verified statement previously submitted.

To secure the approval of the Examiner for proposed amendments to the drawings, enclosed are the following:

Set of _____ () sheets of drawings containing Figures _____ including the proposed amendments therein; and

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VERNON R. RICE
 OF COUNSEL

* Admitted only in California
 * Admitted only in Virginia

December 7, 2005

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_____ A duplicate set of the _____ (____) sheets of drawings with the changes therein highlighted in red.

_____ To render the transmitted Amendment "A" and Response timely filed enclosed are the following:

_____ Petition for a _____-Month Extension of Time; and

_____ Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the fee for the extension of time.

X A Certificate of Facsimile Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10.

_____ No other additional fee is required.

The fee has been calculated as follows:

			SMALL ENTITY		LARGE ENTITY	
CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDT'L FEE	RATE	ADDT'L FEE
TOTAL 45	MINUS 39	= 6	X 25	150	X	
INDEPENDENT 4	MINUS 3	= 1	X 100	100	X	
1 st PRESENTATION OF MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM			+ _____		+ _____	
			TOTAL	250	TOTAL	

X Form PTO-2038 submitting Credit Card Payment in the amount of \$250.00 is enclosed to cover the additional claim fee.

_____ Please charge my Deposit Account No. 23-3178 in the amount of _____.

X The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-3178.

X Any filing fees under 37 CFR 1.16 for the presentation of extra claims.

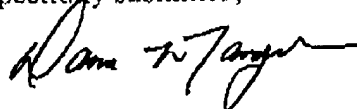
X Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17.

_____ A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is attached.

December 7, 2005
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Dated this 7th day of December 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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